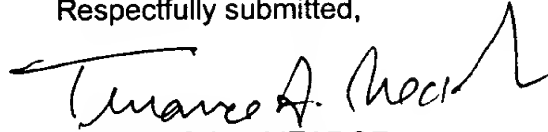


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in advance of the first examination of the subject application. No new matter has been entered.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 2/February 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, immediately below the title please amend the following paragraph:

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/496,599, filed February 2, 2000, which is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/368,206, filed August 4, 1999, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [08/08/624,101, filed March 29, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,997,572.

This application contains material related to the following pending U.S. Patent Application, which is commonly assigned with this application:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/908,207, filed 07/18/01 for INLET PORT PLUG.